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VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : இந்தத் தண்டனை விஷயத்தில் மேலும் தீவிரமாக நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க அரசாங்கம் ஏற்பாடு செய்யுமா ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : மேலும் தீவிரமாக்க வேண்டிய அவசியமில்லை. இப்பொழுது நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்பட்டு வருகிறது. இம்மாதிரி சட்டப்படி நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்வதில் பலனும் ஏற்பட்டுக்கொண்டு வருகிறது.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : There was a proposal before the persons in charge of the Botanical Gardens to alienate a plot of land for some other purpose. May I know whether the Government have taken any action to prevent such alienation?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The Association concerned has not proceeded with the proposal. It has, in fact, not been permitted to do so. The matter is under examination.

Tholurpatti Leprosorium Doctor murder case

* 63 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the judgment in the Tholurpatti Leprosorium Doctor murder case; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) No action is proposed to be taken.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : May I know why the Government do not propose to take any action against the offenders?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : In the case of three persons, i.e., accused 1 to 3 the case ended in conviction. The other accused were acquitted. Our legal authorities on an examination of the judgment came to the conclusion that no appeal need be filed.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it a fact that the said doctor had invited the attention of his superiors on a number of occasions to the unruly behaviour of the inmates of this institution? If so, what action was taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I have no information about the matter referred to by the hon. Member. But on the day of the occurrence of this crime, there was unruly behaviour on the part of the inmates and this incident took place.

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DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it a fact that these lepers had been taking undue advantage of their illness and behaving in an unruly fashion so that this doctor was incapacitated from discharging his duties properly?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : To the best of my information, the unruly behaviour was witnessed only on the day this incident happened. What happened before that is not before us.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it a fact that the doctor wrote to his superior authorities informing them of the unruly behaviour of the inmates of the Leprosorium, fearing his life?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I have no information about that. But as regards the incident on that day, the doctor cut off all rations and no food was given to the inmates from the morning till about 2 or 3 p.m. Probably the inmates got enraged.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Therefore, is that an extenuating circumstance for a person to commit murder?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Whoever said it was an extenuating circumstance? If the hon. Member draws all sorts of inferences, I am not responsible for it.

Plague

* 64 *Q.*—SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was any outbreak of plague in Hosur taluk, Salem district, in the first fortnight of November 1960;

(*b*) if so, the number attacked and the number that proved fatal; and

(*c*) the preventive measures taken by the Government to control the same?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) Yes, Sir. There was an outbreak of plague in Hosur taluk on 9th October 1960.

(*b*) Sixteen attacks and eight deaths were reported.

(*c*) All the people in the infected as well as in the surrounding villages have been inoculated against plague. All the structures in the infected and surrounding areas were treated with D.D.T.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : May I know whether the whole taluk was declared an infected area for about four weeks and that as such no foodstuffs were allowed to move to the non-infected areas?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : When we were concerned with the lives of the people, we should not worry about the movement of things. We have to take steps to see that the disease does not spread. We have arranged for periodical meetings of inter-district and inter-State officers so that they may take proper action for the prevention of this sort of epidemic.